



FUTALEUFU MULTISPORT ADVENTURE (8D/7N) (11-12)
2N Hotel – 5N private camp
Start / end Balmaceda airport

Alternating between granite cliffs, lush foliage, snow-capped peaks and towering spires, the world's premier whitewater river pours dramatically through a breathtaking canyon of indescribable beauty boasting one Class 4 and 5 rapid after another. The quiet moments afford a chance to enjoy the river's clear turquoise-azure water, stunning northern Patagonian scenery and a four of the most exotic river camps imaginable. This private camps offer everything from tree houses in an old growth forest on a lake to riverside hot tubs formed from natural potholes carved from the stone. We offer the option of hiking or riding horses on a beautiful trail around some of the more difficult stretches of the Futaleufu. This Patagonia adventure is as much a multi-sport trip as it is a rafting expedition

DAY 1: SANTIAGO / BALMACEDA / HOTEL PANGUE

Upon arriving in Santiago this morning and passing through customs, you transfer (on your own) to your flight south to Balmaceda.

In the afternoon you arrive in Balmaceda and meet your guide. Boarding the bus, we drive to the wonderful small Chilean city of Coyhaique and then through central Patagonia's spectacular Queulat National Park, known for its rain forest wilds, clear raging rivers, snow-capped peaks and unique flora and fauna. In the evening we reach the comfortable Hotel Pangue, on beautiful Lago Risopatron, where we spend the night.



(3 hours flight, 4 hours by transfer) (D) (Night at Hotel Pangue)

DAY 2: RIO FUTALEUFU (INFLATABLE KAYAKING) / RIO FUTALEUFU (RAFT TRAINING) / TERMINADOR CAMP



This morning we drive to our inflatable kayak put-in on the class 2 (beginner level) lower Futaleufu River. After a kayak training lesson, we begin paddling the stunning, teal/turquoise colored river. We have lunch at the takeout and then drive 15 minutes to the Terminador Camp trailhead and hike into the camp. A mile hike takes us into the camp's interior (Personal bags are transported by ox cart.). The first of four stunning private camp on

the Futaleufu, the Terminador Camp, has a mile of private river front and sits on a dramatic bluff over the raging river. A beautiful trail winds through the trees the entire length of the camp offering stunning views of the mile long rapid which churns the water into every imaginable shade of azure, white and turquoise. Hidden in the trees are 14 private, two people, hand-hewn wooden cliff dwellings each with beds and a bird's eye view of the surging flow, which creates dozens of waterfalls as it spills over giant, sculpted



white granite boulders. Located near the center of the camp is an 18-person wooden hot tub with a cypress deck and a view, which rivals the Zeta Cliffside hot tub at Cave Camp. The



deck is scribed around trees and giant rocks and tucked behind a truck size boulder that acts as both a screen from the river and a natural veranda. Sitting or standing a person is above the top of the rock and sees an unimpeded view up and down the entire mile long rapid and surrounding canyon. A trail from the deck leads down to the water's edge where there is a natural stone couch.

This river-carved smooth granite boulder has natural seats with backrests for 5 or a person lying down. A peninsula of granite that juts out into the river and the bottom of the camp which affords a view of the entire mile long avalanche of rock and water as it races down the impressive staircase. A professional masseuse, chef and videographer accompany most expeditions. That evening we have a welcome dinner.

(30 minutes transfer, 3 hours kayaking or paddling, 30 minutes hike) (B-L-D) (Night at Terminador camp)

***NOTE:** Camp amenities have been added in such a way as to not take away from the wild nature of the river and expedition. Sleeping bags, flannel sleeping sheets, pillows and thick sleeping pads are included at no additional charge. With the exception of the guide tips, masseuse and the professionally shot and edited trip DVD, everything from the day you arrive in Balmaceda until your back to Balmaceda at the trip's conclusion is included in the cost.

DAY 3: RIO FUTALEUFU / CAVE CAMP

In the morning we hike (half an hour) out to dirt road half an hour to our put-in on the



middle Futaleufu River. After a rafting safety talk, we begin our raft training by doing a swim test and flip-drill. (The drill is optional for Class 4 participants.)

We then run a series of long, powerful Class 4+ rapids including; Puente Colgante, Mundaca and Alfombra Magica. In the afternoon we take out and drive an hour to the put-in on the upper river. Soon we enter the



wild, sheer-walled Class 5 Infierno Canyon. Racing between imposing walls, hundreds of feet high, the pulsing river boasts some of the most impressive commercially run rapids in the world including Infierno, Purgatorio and Escala de Jacobo.

NOTE: Class 4 participants have the option of riding a horse (accomplished riders only) or hiking on a stunning trail around the canyon down to lunch.) Each rapid in Infierno canyon is separated by a swift pool which allows enough time for rescue and recovery if necessary. In the early afternoon everyone rafts down to Campo Casa de Piedra, running one challenging class 4 rapid, Son of Zeta.

The 1,000 acre Cave Camp is the most exotic and diverse river camp in the world. Not a cave in the true sense, but a massive overhanging white granite slab that rests on two boulders, the main stone shelter is referred to by the locals as the House of Stone. There is a

sand floor, two large, natural skylights and giant centrally located fireplace in the rear wall that draws smoke through a crack. With an interior space of over 1,600 square feet, this natural wonder is large enough to ride a horse inside and can keep the entire group warm and dry under any conditions. Meals are served here during times of inclement weather. In front of the main stone shelter is a beautiful spring-fed pond/lake called Laguito Azul (Little Blue Lake). Set within a bowl of massive granite towers as high as 300 feet and surrounded by lush vegetation, Laguito Azul resembles a giant Japanese garden. Its brilliant blue water is so pure you can drink it and so clear you can see giant German brown trout and salmon of up to 25 pounds swimming 30 feet down.



Kayaks are available and gliding over the transparent water feels almost surreal. A few hundred feet beyond Laguito Azul rages the most spectacular rapid on the river, Zeta, a Class 5-6, Z-shaped flume cut into solid granite. Just downstream of Zeta, carved into the granite by the river in higher flows, is a heart-shaped, three-foot deep water-filled pothole, which we heat to 105°F (40°C). With smooth, 45° sloping walls to lean against and fresh water every day, this chemical-free stone hot tub comfortably fits twelve people. The smooth granite ledges around the tub are ideal for relaxing and slope gently into the calm aerated blue pool below Zeta making transition from hot to cold water extremely easy. Soaking at night with the brilliant stars of the granite slot is something you'll never forget. In the vicinity of the cliff dwellings is a large cliffside dining area, a 18 person wooden hot tub and a second spring-fed swimming pond. The cliff dwellings, hot tub and dining area are all well hidden from the Futaleufu, yet through the trees they command the river's most impressive camp view. A series of dramatic hand-hewn log sky bridges, 30 feet off the ground, link the Zeta dining/sleeping area to the main Stone shelter so that in times of inclement weather the transition between the two areas is effortless. Downstream from Zeta Rapid is Lost Beach. This private beach is so tucked away that people float right by it on the main river without ever knowing it is there. The camp also has flush toilets and hot showers.



(1 hour hike, 1 hour drive, Rapids class 4, 5, 2 hour floats, optional hiking, kayaking and horseback riding) (B-L-D) (Night at Cave Camp)

DAY 4: CAVE CAMP / TYROLEAN TRAVERSE / TREE HOUSE CAMP

This morning we set up a dramatic Tyrolean traverse across the river. Wearing a climbing harness attached to a pulley, participants pull themselves across a rope stretched between sheer granite walls over the heart of Zeta Rapid. Although not risky or particularly strenuous, hanging and then crossing over the class 6 rapid is extremely exhilarating. Upon reaching the other side, we begin climbing out of the inner canyon. The moderately strenuous 1,500 vertical foot hike takes us past a beautiful 100 foot tributary waterfall and breathtaking views of the river and Cave Camp



with dramatic peaks rising above it. After two hours we crest the top of the inner canyon and enter a wonderful old growth hardwood forest.

Tucked away in the center of this enchanted, moss-draped land of giants is a 10 acre, 50 foot deep Lake of the Frogs. Cut out by the glacier, the lake drops straight off the edge like a giant, bottomless swimming pool. Surrounded by native old growth forest on three sides, with dramatic mountain views on the fourth, this intimate body of water offers wonderful opportunities for swimming and canoeing (there are two canoes).

A natural wood deck and a handmade 16 person hot tub sit on the



edge of the lake. Hidden back in the trees is a hand-hewn log gazebo structure with a fireplace in case of inclement weather. Just beyond the gazebo, 35 feet up in a majestic closely-knit stand of old growth giants are 8 wonderful, hexagon shaped tree houses. They are connected like the spokes of a wheel from one central tree and a circular staircase. These amazing architectural gems are each unique and were hand crafted by a Chilean master carpenter.

Each tree house was designed to be self-supported and not a single nail was placed into the trees. In the afternoon there is the option of swimming and relaxing in the hot tub or taking a short hike to the breathtaking Tree House Camp Canyon Overlook. Engulfed by snow-capped mountains on all sides, this wonderful spot affords us 360 degree views including two gorgeous lakes and seven miles of the turquoise Futaleufu River canyon stretching as far as the eye can see. Condors are frequently seen soaring in the updrafts. We spend the evening above the lower canopy with stunning views of the lake, surrounding forest and mountains.



(Tyrolean traverse, 2 hours hike in the morning, optional swimming, canoeing and hiking in the afternoon) (B-L-D) (Night at Tree House Camp)

DAY 5: TREE HOUSE CAMP / CAVE CAMP (ZIP LINE, CLIFF JUMP, TOWER CLIMB & GIANT RAPPEL)

This morning we hike an hour and a half back down to the river. From the trail we can see aerial views of the river, surrounding canyon and the majestic Tower of the Winds which we will be climbing and rappelling down later in the day. The trail ends at



a 250 foot zip line. Like a giant "fun ride" we hold a loop handle attached to a pulley over our heads and leap off a 25 foot cliff, shooting 250 feet down an angled rope letting go into the pool below Zeta Rapid. A soak in the nearby 105°F (41°C) natural stone hot tub is the perfect transition from the 60°F (15°C) river. On the cliff just above the hot tub there is a 10 to 42 foot high cliff jump into the aerated blue pool below Zeta Rapid. The aerated water cushions the



impact by nearly half. Lunch that day is served near the stone hot tub on the smooth ledges at Zeta. After lunch we receive a climbing safety briefing and put on our climbing harnesses for the Tower climb. For those people not wishing to make the climb, there are the options of hiking, kayaking on the pond, excellent trout fishing or relaxing in the stone hot tub. The tower climb involves a dynamic three-part rock climb up the backside of the 320 foot granite Torre de los Vientos (Tower of the Winds). No previous climbing experience is necessary, and people from 5 to



78 years old have made the climb. Once on top, we venture out on the dramatic Knife's Edge, crossing its narrow natural bridge, with sheer 300 foot drop offs on either side. The views of Zeta Rapid, Laguito Azul and the surrounding canyon from the Knife's Edge are exquisite and among the most impressive found on the river. To descend from the tower we do a dramatic, 320 foot, two-stage rappel (self lowering by rope) off the Tower's sheer north wall. For most people switching ropes at the mid-station is as exhilarating as any of the river's class 5 rapids. An optional, less demanding, 100 ft. rappel off the back side of the tower is also available. We spend the night at the cave camp.

(1.5 hour hike, zip line, climbing to the Tower of winds, Rappelling down, optional hikes, kayaking and fishing) (B-L-D) (Night at Cave Camp)

DAY 6: CAVE CAMP / RIO FUTALEUFU / CAMPO MAPU LEUFU



A short float this morning takes us to unrunnable Throne Room Rapid where the boats are pushed through empty (ghost boated). The next couple of hours are spent running a series of long, exciting class 4+ rapids, down to lunch on a beach at the confluence of the Futaleufu and turquoise Rio Azul River. After lunch we paddle some more exciting class 4+ rapids down to the Mapu Leufu Camp.

Situated on a secluded bluff, 120 feet over the river with dramatic 360° views, this 300-acre camp has over two miles of private riverfront. Hand-hewn wooden cliff dwellings offer breathtaking views of granite towers rising from the turquoise river. Dramatically perched on the cliff is an 18-person wooden hot tub. Meals are served outdoors at the cliff-side dining area with stunning views of granite spires rising from the turquoise river in one direction and glacier-capped, Alp-like peaks in the other.



There is also a tributary stream with waterfalls and deep pools. The camp also has flush toilets, hot showers, a hand-hewn gazebo-like shelter and a covered dining area if it rains. In the afternoon, we take a manual cable car across the river and spend the rest of



the afternoon canyoning through the 400 foot deep Rio Blanco slot canyon. Wearing wetsuits and river shoes, we hike, climb, and swim through this incredible natural labyrinth of white boulders, clear azure pools and waterfalls. Those people not wishing to partake in

the Rio Blanco canyoning can relax at camp. That evening we have a traditional Chilean Asado (roasted sheep over a fire) prepared by our local neighbor, Segundo.
(Rapids class 4+, canyoning) (B-L-BBQ) (Night at Mapu Leufu Camp)

DAY 7: RIO FUTALEUFU / HOTEL PANGUE

Today is one the most impressive commercial rafting days in the world. * Within minutes of pushing off we enter class 5+ Terminador Rapid, the most demanding rapid on the river. Immediately downstream of Terminador are the 15 foot waves of the Himalayas. In this stretch the rapids flow together making nearly a mile and a half of non-stop Class 5 action. (Class 4 clients can hike around the most exposed sections on a beautiful trail and run the rest). After the Himalayas there is a series of giant Class 4+ rapids (some nearly a mile long) and two Class 5 rapids: Cojin (the cushion) and Mundaca. After another long stretch of Class 4+water, we have lunch.



In the afternoon we run two of the most difficult Class 5 rapids on the river; Mas o Menos and Casa De Piedra. After the last rapid, the canyon boasts some of its most impressive scenery with grand vistas of towering mountains and glaciers. In the early afternoon we take out and drive south to the hotel Pangué (where we spent the first evening of the trip) where we will have a few hours to enjoy Lake Risopatron (The hotel has canoes and kayaks). That evening there is a farewell dinner celebration at the hotel restaurant. ***Option:** Class 4 participants have the option of hiking on a trail around short sections of the bigger rapids. Often people who chose to walk around Inferno Canyon earlier in the trip feel more comfortable and run many of the large rapids today. This decision, however, is always left up to the guides.



(Rapids class 5+, 4+, optional hike, kayaking, canoeing in the late afternoon) (B-L-D) (Night at Hotel Pangué)

DAY 8: HOTEL PANGUE / BALMACEDA

This morning we drive back to the Balmaceda Airport and have a group lunch before boarding our flight for Santiago.

(4 hours by transfer, 3 hours flight) (B-L)

REGARDING THE SCHEDULE

The schedules indicated above are subject to change due to weather conditions or unexpected circumstances beyond our control, but we will try our best to keep them unaltered

PRICE 2 - 12 passengers
Per person USD \$ 3.400

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP

- Ground transportation from Balmaceda to the river and back
- Hotels at the beginning and end of the trip
- All food, dinner day 2 until lunch day 9
- Sotar rafts, wetsuits, type 5 life jackets, paddles
- 3 – 1 client guide ratio
- 4 exclusive wilderness camps (3,000 acres)
- Cliff dwellings with beds & tree houses (no tents)
- Swimming/kayaking ponds or lakes, every camp
- Side creek waterfalls & swimming holes every camp
- Spectacular outdoor cliff-side dining every night
- Optional covered dining (inclement weather)
- Hot tubs (every night), hot showers & flush toilets
- Sleeping bags, thick mattress pads & pillows
- Chefs prepared meals, Chilean wine, beer & soda
- Rock climbing & rappelling gear & instruction
- Tyrolean traverse & zip line gear & instruction
- Canyoneering gear and instruction
- Inflatable kayaking gear and instruction
- Riding horses
- Mountain bikes

NOT INCLUDED

- Flight to Chile
- Flight from Santiago, Chile to Balmaceda
- Professional masseuse (\$45 per hour, \$25 ½ hour)
- River guide tips (typically 5% of trip cost)
- Professionally shot trip DVD (\$185)